

## WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

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## REP. GARY HEBL COMMENTS ON STATE'S CLEAN ENERGY JOBS NUMBERS

New Report From RENEW Wisconsin shows Wisconsin with 25,000 Clean Energy Jobs

(MADISON) - State Rep. Gary Hebl (D-Sun Prairie) today commented on the numbers released last week by RENEW Wisconsin showing Wisconsin has almost 25,000 clean energy jobs.

"25,000 is a certainly a decent start. But it lags behind other states in the Midwest. The report shows that Wisconsin ranks just 9<sup>th</sup> of the 12 states in terms of overall clean energy jobs," Hebl said. "We are ahead of just Nebraska, South Dakota, and North Dakota, all of which have significantly lower overall populations, as well as workforce populations, than Wisconsin."

Indeed, the report shows that North Dakota actually ranks first in terms of percentage of the workforce that is working in clean energy, at 2.67%. Wisconsin ranks dead last, coming in at just .87%. It trails the next lowest state, Indiana, which has 1.49% of the workforce in clean energy.

Of the 24,714 jobs in clean energy, more than 17,000 were in the energy efficiency sector. More than 5,600 were in renewable energy, with the rest coming from the advanced transportation, clean fuels, and advanced grid sectors.

Hebl stated that while overall clean energy jobs are lackluster, there are some positive signs. For instance, he pointed to the projected growth numbers, saying that Wisconsin 4.8% projected growth puts it in the top half of the states in the report.

"It is evident that we in the legislature need to refocus on creating good clean energy jobs for Wisconsin, not only to get our citizens back to work but also so that Wisconsin can finally become a leader in clean and renewable energy in order to help stop the threat of climate change to our planet."

The detailed report, available at <u>cleanjobsmidwest.com</u>, showed Illinois with 113,918 jobs in clean energy, the most in the region; South Dakota was last with 7,118. Missouri has the best outlook with a projected growth of 8.3%; Indiana was last, with just a 1.3% projected growth.